

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 16, 2002

H.R. 4682

Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site Boundary Revision Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on July 24, 2002

H.R. 4682 would make small changes to the boundary of the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site in Pennsylvania. In addition, the bill would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to exchange about 108 acres of park land for 98 acres of private property adjacent to the historic site. If the two tracts to be exchanged are not of equal value, any difference could be eliminated—by either party—by a cash payment or conveyance of other land. Finally, the bill would authorize the acquisition of an additional 15-acre parcel of land by donation or exchange. Following completion of those transactions, any property acquired by the government would be added to the historic site and administered by the NPS.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that it would cost less than \$200,000 to carry out the acquisitions authorized by the bill, including legal costs, surveys, and mapping. Because it is possible that the federal government could receive a cash equalization payment from the private property owners, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but CBO estimates that such a payment, if any, would be less than \$100,000. We expect that additional costs to develop and administer the expanded historic site would not be significant.

This bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.